



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,951	03/17/2004	William F. DeGrado	1694.0630003	2895
26111 7590 07/28/2008 STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C. 1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005				
EXAMINER				
CHONG, YONG SOO				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1617				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/28/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/801,951

Applicant(s)

DEGRADO ET AL.

Examiner

YONG S. CHONG

Art Unit

1617

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 15-49, 54-56, 62, 63 and 65-73 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1, 15, 49, 54-56, 62, 63, 65 and 66 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-48 and 67-73 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/30/08
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Application

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/30/2008 and 6/25/2008 have been entered.

Claim(s) 2-14, 50-53, 57-61, 64 have been cancelled. Claim(s) 1, 15-49, 54-56, 62-63, 65-73 are pending. Claim(s) 1, 15, 49, 54-56, 62-63, 65-66 have been withdrawn. Claim(s) 73 has been amended. Claim(s) 16-48, 67-73 are examined herein.

Applicant's amendments have rendered the objection over claim 73 of the last Office Action moot, therefore hereby withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered and found persuasive to withdraw the 103(a) obviousness rejection of the last Office Action.

Applicant's arguments with respect to the obviousness double patenting rejection of the last Office Action have been fully considered but are not persuasive. The obviousness double patenting rejection has been modified below so as to address Applicant's arguments. The following new double patenting rejection will also apply.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 16-48, 67-73 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4-8, 11, 14-15, 20-22, 26 of U.S. Patent No. 7,173,102 B2.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the referenced claims recite a method of killing microorganisms by contacting a surface with a compound of formula II, whereas the instant claims recite the same compound of formula II in a method of treating a microbial infection in an animal.

A preferred polymer or oligomer in the referenced claims is represented by a compound of formula I, where X can be NR₃, NHNH (where R₃ is hydrogen), O, S; Y can be CO; both A and B are independently optionally substituted o-, m-, p-phenylene, or optionally substituted heteroarylene wherein one of A and B is substituted with a polar (P) group and a nonpolar (NP) group and the other of A and B is substituted with

Art Unit: 1617

neither a polar nor a nonpolar group; NP can be R_4 , $-U-(CH_2)_p-R_4$, wherein R_4 can be hydrogen, C1-C2 alkyl, C3-C18 branched alkyl, P is a polar group selected from hydroxyethoxymethyl or $-U-(CH_2)_p-V$, where U is O or S and V can be amino, guanidine; p is 0 to 8; and m is 2 to at least 500; R_1 is (i) $-Y-C$, (ii) H, or (iii) R_1 and R_2 together are a single bond; R_2 is $-x-(CH_2)_p-W$ wherein W is H, V, N-maleimide, phenyl optionally substituted with up to three substituents selected from the group consisting of V, alkyl, carboxy, etc. Representative "heterocycles" include pyridine, cyclic guanidines, imidazole, piperidine, piperazine, etc. (claims 1, 4-8, 11, 14-15, 20-22, 26).

It would have been prima facie obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the claimed invention was made, to administer to an animal infected with a microorganism a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula I or II as disclosed by the referenced claims.

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to administer to an animal infected with a microorganism a pharmaceutical composition comprising an oligomer of formula I because: (1) of general teaching that the disclosed oligomers inhibit the growth of microorganisms on a surface; (2) interpreting the term "substrate" broadly includes any surface in need of killing microorganism, such as the skin or internal organs; and (3) animals with a microbial infection is a species within the broad genus of substrates. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of success in treating a microbial infection in an animal by administering a composition comprising an oligomer of formula I.

Examiner notes that this is a typical genus/species situation. Once a *prima facie* case of obviousness is established, the burden is shifted to the Applicant for objective evidence for nonobviousness. See MPEP 2144.08.

Claims 16-48, 67-73 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 49-53 of copending Application No. 11/980,785. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both sets of claims recite a method of treating a microbial infection in an animal by administering a composition comprising an amphiphilic oligomer of formula II, in which the scope of formula II sufficiently overlaps so as to encompass the species election.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong S. Chong whose telephone number is (571)-272-8513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SREENI PADMANABHAN can be reached on (571)-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1617

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Yong S Chong/
Examiner, Art Unit 1617

YSC